

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF COMMUNITY HEALTH MEETING
January 10, 2008**

Members Present

Richard Holmes, Chairman
Ross Mason, Vice Chairman
Dr. Inman “Buddy” English
Kim Gay
Frank Jones
Richard Robinson

Members Absent

Dr. Ann McKee Parker

The Board of Community Health held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting at the Department of Community Health, Fifth Floor Board Room, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia. Commissioner Rhonda Medows was present. (An agenda and a list of Attendees are attached hereto and made official parts of these Minutes as Attachments #1 and #2). Chairman Holmes called the meeting to order at 10:38 a.m.

Chairman’s Comments

Chairman Holmes said the board will forego the election of the board secretary until new members have been appointed. He announced the appointment of Frank Jones as Chair of the Audits Committee.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the December 13 Meeting were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND ADOPTED.

Committee Reports

Mr. Jones reported that the independent auditors, BKR Metcalf Davis Mauldin and Jenkins, presented the findings from their June 30, 2007 Financial Statement and Single Audit. Both reports received an unqualified or “clean” opinion. He said the Committee spent a significant amount of time reviewing specific findings, discussing the issues and ways to manage these issues in the future. These discussions will continue in future committee meetings.

Commissioner’s Comments

Dr. Medows reported that the SCHIP program had been extended to March 2009. A determination from the Congressional Research Service, based on our own state’s input to CMS, reveals that the \$157 million shortfall the Department would have anticipated will be addressed in the funding. The Department is waiting from confirmation from CMS as are other states. She said it looks like the total amount of \$325.5 million federal fund need for SCHIP for FFY 08 would be met.

Department Updates

Dr. Winston Price, Medical Director, Division of Managed Care and Quality, reminded members that the Georgia Families Quality Strategic Plan and Request for Public Input was first presented to the Board at the November 8 meeting. He asked Dr. Dev Nair, Clinical Director, and Adriane Saunders, Quality Director, to give an overview of the rationale, methodology and process by which the public input was conducted.

Ms. Saunders gave a background of the Quality Strategic Plan. Section 1932(c)(1) of the Social Security Act sets forth specifications for Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement strategies that states must implement to ensure that quality health care services are delivered by Managed Care Organizations. The purpose of the Quality Strategic Plan is to explain how Georgia will assess the quality of care delivered by the Care Management Organizations (CMOs) as well as, based on that assessment; explain how the Department will improve the quality of services provided.

Ms. Saunders described the process the Department implemented to get public input. The Quality Strategic Plan, Executive Summary and form for input was posted on the DCH web site. In addition, the Department distributed the Quality Strategic Plan to 48 organizations which included professional societies, medical societies, public interest groups, universities, and the

general public. Once the public input was received, the Division of Managed Care Review Committee analyzed the comments.

Dr. Nair gave a high level overview of the input received, DCH's response to the comments and any changes made to the Quality Strategic Plan based on public input. A large number of comments focused on the objectives that the Division chose and the methodology for assessing the objectives, utilizing geo-access reports as a measure of access, the use of Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) Reference Data, and making available managed care data and public reporting on a predictable, regular basis.

Dr. Price said he hoped the presentation provided a framework for the Strategic Plan and made the board aware, that in addition to all of the intricate work that went into creating the Strategic Plan, the Division of Managed Care and Quality valued the public input and willingly revised certain sections of the Strategic Plan. Dr. Price, Dr. Nair and Ms. Saunders addressed questions and comments from the Board concerning the Social Security Act requirements for managed care organizations, prenatal-early intervention strategic objectives, and a request for DCH to seek public input from the Clark Atlanta University Center. Ms. Gay MADE a MOTION to accept the Quality Strategic Plan. Dr. English SECONDED the MOTION. Chairman Holmes called for votes; votes were taken. The MOTION was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. (Copies of the Public Input on Georgia Families Quality Strategic Plan presentation, Public Input and DCH Response, and the Quality Strategic Plan are attached hereto and made official parts of these Minutes as Attachments #3, #4 and #5 respectively).

Ms. Gay asked the Division of Managed Care and Quality to provide to the Board quarterly Quality Strategic Plan progress reports. Dr. Price indicated that the Division would provide updates as the Division viewed the Strategic Plan as a fluid document that will be continually revised, updated and evaluated to assess both member and provider to determine if the program is moving in the right direction.

Dr. English asked Dr. Medows if the scope of the CMO audit would include providers. Dr. Medows said the hospital portion of the CMO audit is near completion and soon the auditors will start with physicians and move to provider groups.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Mr. Holmes adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2008.

RICHARD L. HOLMES
Chairman

Secretary

Official Attachments:

- #1 List of Attendees
- #2 Agenda
- #3 Public Input on Georgia Families
Quality Strategic Plan Presentation
- #4 Public Input and DCH Response
- #5 Quality Strategic Plan